GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2694
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2007
TREATMENT OF SPINAL INJURY THROUGH STEM CELL
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Stem-Cell treatment for spinal injury patients are available in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of places/hospitals in the country where Stem-Cell treatment have already started;

(d) whether the Government servants are allowed for free treatment for such treatment, particularly the retired Government servants; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT.PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (e) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has noted claims of autologous bone marrow stem cell in patients with spinal cord injury which was presented to the media on the 12th June, 2007 in Chennai by the NCRM (Nichi-in centre for regeneration − under HOPE)- Life line team. The Manipal hospital's regenerative medicine department also claimed to have carried out clinical trials in stem cell therapy in 15 spinal cord injury patients. However, presently there is no approved indication for stem cell therapy as a part of routine medical practice, other than Bone Marrow Transplantation.